What is claimed is:

1	1. A system, comprising:
2	a user interaction detector to produce a signal
3	indicative of whether a user is interacting with the
4	system;
5	a user proximity detector to determine whether a user
6	is proximate to the system and to produce a signal
7	indicative of user proximity, the user proximity detector
8	separate from and responsive to the user interaction
9	detector;
10	a power management module to manage power in the
11	system, the power management module responsive to the
12	signal indicative of user proximity; and
13	a connector shaped and configured to receive a battery
14	to provide power to the system, the connector in
15	communication with the power management module.
16	
17	2. The system of claim 1, wherein the user proximity
18	detector is inactive when the signal indicative of whether
19	a user is interacting with the system indicates that a user
20	is interacting with the system.

21

22 The system of claim 1, wherein the user 3. 23 interaction detector comprises circuitry to determine 24 whether a user is interacting with the system via at least 25 one of a mouse and a keyboard. 26 27 The system of claim 1, wherein the user proximity 28 detector comprises a camera. 29 30 The system of claim 4, wherein the camera 31 comprises active pixel sensors. 32 33 The system of claim 1, wherein the power 34 management module is to reduce system power consumption in 35 response to the signal indicative of user proximity 36 indicating that a user is not proximate to the system. 37 The system of claim 6, wherein the system further 38 7. 39 includes a display, and wherein the power management module 40 is to reduce system power consumption by reducing an amount 41 of power to the display. 42 43 The system of claim 1, wherein the system is a 44 mobile computing system.

45

46 A power control device for a computer, 9. 47 comprising: 48 user interaction circuitry to produce a signal 49 indicative of whether a user is interacting with the 50 computer; 51 a user proximity detector separate from the user 52 interaction circuitry and responsive to the signal 53 indicative of whether a user is interacting with the 54 computer, the user proximity detector to produce a signal 55 indicative of user proximity to the computer; and 56 a power control module to manage power in the 57 computer, the power management module responsive to the 58 signal indicative of user proximity. 59 60 10. The device of claim 9, wherein the user proximity 61 detector is inactive when the signal indicative of whether 62 a user is interacting with the computer indicates that a 63 user is interacting with the computer. 64 65 The device of claim 9, wherein the user proximity 66 detector is active immediately after the signal indicative 67 of whether a user is interacting with the computer

69

68

indicates that a user is not interacting with the computer.

The device of claim 9, wherein the user proximity 70 detector is active after the signal indicative of whether a 71 user is interacting with the computer indicates that a user 72 is not interacting with the computer for a time equal to a 73 74 user inactivity time. 75 The device of claim 12, wherein the user 76 77 inactivity time is user selectable. 78 79 The device of claim 9, wherein the user proximity detector comprises a camera. 80 81 The device of claim 14, wherein the user 82 proximity detector further comprises an image processor to 83 receive image information from the camera and further to 84 85 process the image information. 86